

is made evident by the fact that Latin was to him a foreign tongue when he escaped to Gaul to prepare for the priesthood.

But what Patrick and his Episcopal assistants could do in editing the code was to give special privileges to the clergy. It was not to be altered again, and all was left in their hands. That the new priesthood required new privileges would be the easiest thing imaginable to demonstrate to the new converts.

What was done? In the Brehon law there was the dire fine or full honor price which might be imposed on each, according to his dignity, for the heavier offenses, among which, by the way, was lying. There was also the half honor price, which one might be fined for offences of less viciousness. Refusal of food was one of these. For the second grade offenses no one lost his honor price until convicted a third time. But for churchmen Patrick made an exception. They had to pay the full fine for the very first offense and besides be degraded in rank. A still stricter rule was imposed on bishops. Churchmen of lower grade thus convicted, could recover their grade, but a bishop could not. He must resign his high office and become a hermit. Thus did Patrick provide that an erring priest should be punished more severely than the erring layman and the erring bishop more severely than any other.

A great man truly, a great law editor, was Patrick, son of Calpornius.

## A Trip to Washington.

By D. Vincent.

A trip to Washington! Ten years ago such a prospect would have filled our soul with unlimited joy, but having since traveled across the European continent and sojourned for three years in the capital of Christendom, the opportunity now offered us to spend a year in Uncle Sam's Holy of Holies did not provoke any extraordinary enthusiasm in us. How could we expect to experience in an American City the intense feelings, the deep impressions, the unspeakable emotions which